

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the abstract on page 13 with the following paragraph:

A nozzle assembly for a HVOF thermal metallic spray coating system includes an inner tube, a middle tube and an outer tube which are concentrically arranged about an axis of the nozzle assembly and are spaced to provide annular, concentric gas flow passages for oxygen and gaseous fuel along with a central wire feed passage in an efficient, compact arrangement. A slotted nib and plug are fitted to the discharge end at the assembly and defined, together with the middle tube, an annular premix chamber for the combustible gases, and a plurality of circumferentially spaced mixing slots and a downstream mix end portion of the nib where complete mixing of the gases occurs prior to entry into the combustion chamber provided in an air cap. An annular passage between the air cap and outer tube communicates with a high pressure air source for establishing an envelope of air against the inside surface of the air cap to serve as a protective barrier layer from the atomized metal.

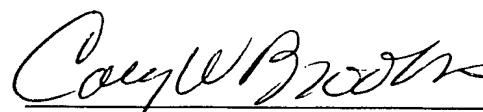
IN THE DRAWINGS:

Figure 2 of the drawings has been amended to change numeral 72 to 82 in two locations to indicate a set of O-rings. Figures 2 and 3 have been amended to add reference numeral 130 to indicate the inner surface of the air cap.

Enclosed are two copies of drawing sheets 2 and 3 – one copy with the amendments highlighted in red and one new formal drawing set.

Approval of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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CWB:plul
Enclosures